

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 IGA-02 NEA-10 NIC-01 RSR-01 /155 W

----- 082432

R 271355 Y JUN 73 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2539

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEXBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASUY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 4175

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, SO, ET

SUBJ: KENyan OFFICIAL PESSIMISTIC RE SOMALIA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. GOK OFFICIAL TOLD CHARGE' JUNE 26 THAT OAU SUMMIT'S " INTERNATIONALIZATION" OF ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA DISPUTE MAKES MILITARY " BLOW- UP" IN HORN MORE LIKELY. HD ALSO EXPRESSED DOUBT CURRENT EFFORTS TO MEDIATE SOMALIA- ETHIOPIA DISPUTE WILL SUCCEED, AND SAID RECENT KENyan TRILATERAL TALKS WITH SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA WERE PARTLY MOTIVATED BY KENyan FEARS OF BEING " ISOLATED" BY UGANDAN COLLABORATION WITH SOMALIA.
END SUMMARY

2. DURING JUNE 26 CALL AT FOREIGN MINISTRY BY CHARGE' AND REAR ADMIJAL HANKS (COMIDEASTFOR), PERMSEC MLAMBA INDIAATED THAT SOMALIA' S SUCCESS AT OAU SUMMIT IN ? INTERNATIONALIZING" DIYPUTE WITH ETHIOPIA HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTMENT TO GOK AND HAD HEIGHTENED KENyan FEARS THAT SECURITY SITUATION IN HORN WOULD SOON DETERIORATE
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TO EVENTUAL DETRIMENT OF KENYA. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT MILITARY " BLOW- UP" IN HORN QUITE POSSIBLE IN COMING MONTHSSAS SIAD WILL HAVE TO " LET OFF STEAM" THROUGH EXTERNAL MILITARY ACTIONS OR RISK " BLOWING UP INSIDE ."

WHILE MLAMBA THOUGHT ANY SUCH ACTIONS WOULD INITIALLY BE FOCUSED IN OGADEN REGION OF ETHIOPIA, HE CLAIMS KENYANS TAKE LITTLE COMFORT FROM THIS AS THEY ARE " NEXT" ON SOMALIA'S LIST.

3. MLAMBA PREDICTED THAT CURRENT EFFORTS OF NIMEIRI AND AMIN TO MEDIATE SOMALIA- ETHIOPIA DISPUTE WOULD BE UNSUCCESSFUL. WHILE NIMEIRI MIGHT COOL SITUATION TEMPORARILY, HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SOLVE PROBLEM. AMIN, WHO " HOPS FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY" WITH LITTLE OR NO ADVANCE PLANNING, UNLIKELY TO HAVE ANY INFLUENCE ON DISPUTE IN MLAMBA'S VIEW.

4. MLAMBA SAID GOK WORRIED THAT AMIN MAY BECOME " VERY MOSLEM" AND COLLABORATE TOO CLOSELY WITH SOMALIA THEREBY " ISOLATING" KENYA. RECENT VISIT TO SOMALIA BY 159 UGANDAN CHIEFS AROUSED KENYAN FEARS IN THIS REGARD. MLAMBA INDICATED TRILATERAL TALKS IN NAIROBI LAST WEEK WITH SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA WERE PARTLY MOTIVATED BY GOK DESIRE TO FOSTER REGIONAL STABILITY AND AT SAME TIME OFFSET RECENT DEVELOPMENTS TENDING TO " ISOLATE" KENYA. HE NOTED THAT NUMERI, IN SEEKING NEW OUTLETS TO SEA THROUGH KENYA AND ETHIOPIA, IS BECOMING " REALISTIC AND PRAGMATIC" WHICH IS " WHAT WE KENYANS LIKE TO SEE."

5. COMMENT: WHILE MLAMBA'S PESSIMISM RE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN SOMALIA MAY BE EXCESSIVE, HIS CANDID REMARKS PROBABLY REFLECT VIEWS HELD BY GOK PROFESSIONALS IN DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. MOREOVER, AS TOP RANKING CIVIL SERVANT IN FOREIGN MINISTRY, HE CLEARLY WIELDS CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE OVER KENYAN FOREIGN POLICY, PARTICULARLY SINCE FREQUENT ABSENCES OF FOREIGN MINISTER MUNGAI NECESSITATE SIGNIFICANT DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO MLAMBA.

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